

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

February, 2002

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Twenty-sixth Middlesex Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.

Residents of Twenty-sixth Middlesex Representative District

Treatment Admissions:

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 0.3% (406) reside in the Twenty-sixth Middlesex Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (77) of Twenty-sixth Middlesex Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 69.2% of admissions from the Twenty-sixth Middlesex Representative District were male and 30.7% were female.
- Over 82.5% of admissions were between the ages of 21-39.
- 92.1% of admissions were white non-Latino, 1.9% were black non-Latino, 2.2% were Latino, 0.7% were Asian and 2.9% were other racial categories.
- 69.7% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 12% were married, and 14.2% reported not to be married now.
- 17.2% of admissions had less than high school education, 50.2% completed high school, and 32.5% had more than high school education.
- 36.4% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 11.8% of those admitted were homeless.
- 17% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

Substances Used in Past Year:

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Twenty-sixth Middlesex Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 1 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2001							
Twenty-sixth Middlesex Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	373	331	105	103	63	79	46
FY '96	383	333	115	115	62	86	61
FY '97	421	348	127	90	60	105	63
FY '98	446	375	145	109	44	107	73
FY '99	454	360	144	113	63	131	104
FY '00	426	332	120	108	53	138	102
FY '01	406	320	130	103	37	116	90

- Since FY 1995, residents of Twenty-sixth Middlesex Representative District reported a decline in crack use, but an increase in heroin use. Crack use decreased by 41%, while heroin use increased by 46%.
- Between FY 1995 and FY 2001, admissions reporting cocaine use remained steady, while marijuana use increased by 23%, and alcohol use decreased by 3%.

Primary Substance of Use:

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Twenty-sixth Middlesex Representative District.

Table 2 Primary Drug by District and State FY 2001					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	58.1%	24.3%	6.4%	3.4%	1.4%
State	46.4%	35.9%	6.5%	3.8%	3.4%

- While marijuana and cocaine as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was level with the State average, alcohol as a primary drug was higher, and, heroin and crack was lower within your District.